BOROUGH OF SOUTH TOMS RIVER

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Garden State Parkway first opened in Ocean County during the mid-1950's when the County's year-round population was about 50,000 people; and

WHEREAS, Ocean County's population today is reaching beyond 600,000 making the maintaining of the safest and most convenient network of roads a top priority; and

WHEREAS, the Garden State Parkway, in recent years has undergone a number of improvements throughout Ocean County mostly having to do with upgrading interchanges; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of South Toms River agrees with the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders in its appreciation of the continuing support of the Turnpike Authority in making certain improvements are done to this important roadway in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, Ocean County is a mecca for tourism, host to hundreds of thousands of people from the tri-state area using the GSP to arrive at tourism destinations between Ocean County and Cape May, including the popular stop of Atlantic City; and

WHEREAS, the current plan to widen the GSP by one lane in both the southbound and northbound directions will meet the current needs of Ocean County's motoring population and the increasing volume of commuters utilizing this roadway daily; and

WHEREAS, the planned widening will not result in additional growth along the highway, but rather will accommodate the current population; and

WHEREAS, this planned widening will not only provide for a smoother flow of traffic but will enhance the roadway, which serves as Ocean County's main evacuation route for hurricanes, forest fires and nuclear power plant events. The additional lanes on the parkway would serve Ocean County will during emergencies and natural disasters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the GOVERNING BODY of the BOROUGH OF SOUTH TOMS RIVER, agrees with the BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS of the COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY hereby strongly supports the Turnpike Authority in its efforts to widen the Garden State Parkway Interchanges 63 to 80.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Jon Corzine, the NJ Turnpike Authority, the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Pinelands Commission, Members of the 9th, 10th and 30th Legislative Districts, Toms River, Ocean, Beachwood, Berkeley, Lacey, Barnegat, Stafford, Eagleswood, Tuckerton and Little Egg Harbor

** CERTIFICATION **

I, Elizabeth Silvestri, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of South Toms River, in the County of Ocean, hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council on the 19th day of March, 2007.

Elizabeth Silvestri, RMC/MMC

Master Municipal Clerk

133-572P